



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®

Mississippi Valley Division

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Mississippi River Commission Members Sworn In

VICKSBURG, Miss., December 14, 1999 -- Three members of the Mississippi River Commission (MRC) officially took the oath of office when they were sworn in Friday, December 10, by Dr. Joseph W. Westphal, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. Maj. Gen. Phillip R. Anderson, who serves as MRC president, and MRC members, Mr. Sam Angel and Brig. Gen. Robert H. Griffin, pledged their service to the United States during a ceremony at the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association's 64th Annual Meeting in New Orleans, La.

The commission was created by an Act of Congress on June 28, 1879. It consists of three officers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers -- one designated as president -- a representative from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and three civilians, two of whom are civil engineers.

MRC appointments are nominated by the President and subject to confirmation by the U.S. Senate. The Senate confirmed all three nominations on November 10, 1999.

The commission itself is an advisory body. Its general duties include recommending policy and work programs, studying and reporting on modifications or changes to the Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) project, commenting on matters authorized by law, making inspection trips, and holding public hearings that facilitate reciprocal exchanges of viewpoints and ideas between the public and the Corps.

Maj. Gen. Anderson has been serving as commander and division engineer of the Corps' Mississippi Valley Division, headquartered in Vicksburg, Miss., since July 1997. As MVD Commander, General Anderson is responsible for the Corps' water resources program in the Mississippi River Valley. The boundary of the Mississippi Valley Division extends from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, includes portions of 12 states, and encompasses 370,000 square miles. As MRC president he is also responsible for the MR&T project -- the vast,

comprehensive flood control and navigation system for the alluvial valley from Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to the Gulf of Mexico. The programs and activities overseen by the MVD and MRC are conducted by district offices located in St. Paul, Minn.; Rock Island, Ill.; St. Louis, Mo.; Memphis, Tenn.; Vicksburg, Miss.; and New Orleans, La.

Mr. Angel is president of the Epstein Land Company and Epstein Gin Company in Lake Village, Ark. He was first appointed to the MRC in September 1979. After his nine-year term had expired, he was reappointed in October 1988; and then confirmed again for a third successive nine-year appointment.

Brig. Gen. Griffin is commander and division engineer of the Corps' Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio. He directs all Corps water resources development in the Great Lakes and Ohio River basins, an area of over 355,300 square miles including all or parts of 17 states.

(Note: For more information, biographies on all three members are attached.)

(From left: Dr. Joseph W. Westphal, Maj. Gen. Phillip R. Anderson, Brig. Gen. Robert H. Griffin, and Mr. Sam Angel.)

BIOGRAPHY

MAJOR GENERAL PHILLIP R. ANDERSON

(President)

Major General Phillip R. Anderson assumed command of the Mississippi Valley Division (MVD) on July 15, 1997. He came to MVD from Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where he was Director of Military Programs.

General Anderson is also President of the Mississippi River Commission (MRC). The appointment, made by the President of the United States, was confirmed by the U.S. Senate November 10, 1999.

As MVD Commander, Major General Anderson plays a vital role in managing the Corps water resource program in the Mississippi River Valley. The boundary of the Mississippi Valley Division extends from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, includes portions of 12 states, and encompasses 370,000 square miles. The programs and activities overseen by the MVD and MRC are conducted by district offices located in St. Paul, Rock Island, St. Louis, Memphis, Vicksburg, and New Orleans.

General Anderson is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Virginia, where he was commissioned in 1970 into the Corps of Engineers. He holds master's degrees in civil engineering from the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana and international relations from Salve Regina University in Newport,

Rhode Island. He is a licensed professional engineer in the state of Virginia and is a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers, the Society of American Military Engineers, and the Army Engineer Association.

His military education includes the Engineer Officer Basic, Construction, and Advanced courses, the Army Command and General Staff College and the Naval War College. His troop assignments include Platoon Leader, Engineer Equipment Officer, Assistant S-3, and Company Commander, 27th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Airborne), Fort Bragg, North Carolina; S-3, Assistant Division Engineer and Executive Officer, 307th Engineer Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg; Commander, 20th Engineer Battalion (Combat), Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and Commander, 36th Engineer Group (Combat), Fort Benning, Georgia.

General Anderson has served as Liaison Officer and Assistant Resident Engineer, Saudi Arabia District. As a civil engineer in the Louisville District, he was a project engineer for the Taylorsville Lake Project. He also served as the Executive Officer for the Chief of Engineers, Headquarters Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C., and Land and Naval Facilities Program Manager, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe. He was Director of Training for the U.S. Army Engineer School at Fort Leonard Wood from October 1993 until January 1994 when he was selected to serve as Chief of Staff. In October 1994, General Anderson became the Deputy Commanding General of the U. S. Army Engineer Center and Fort Leonard Wood, remaining in that position until his assignment as Director of Military Programs at HQUSACE.

He has been involved in many humanitarian relief operations including Hurricane Andrew as Deputy Joint Task Force Engineer, Operation Restore Hope in Somalia as Army Forces Engineer, and United Nations Mission in Haiti as Deputy Commander U.S. Forces. General Anderson's decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense and Meritorious Service Medals, and the Army Commendation and Achievement Medals. He has been awarded the Ranger, Master Parachutist, and Air Assault Badges.

General Anderson was born in San Diego, California. He is married to the former Elizabeth Allen Bartley. They have one daughter, Sarah, who resides in Eatonton, Georgia.

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SAM E. ANGEL

Mr. Sam Angel of Lake Village, Arkansas, was first appointed to the Mississippi River Commission on September 25, 1979. After his nine-year term had expired, he was reappointed on October 28, 1988; and then confirmed again by the Senate on November 10, 1999, for a third successive nine-year appointment. He is a Chicot County Planter and ginner.

Mr. Sam E. Angel of Lake Village, Arkansas, was first appointed to the Mississippi River Commission on September 25, 1979. After his nine-year term had expired, he was reappointed on October 28, 1988; and then confirmed again by the Senate on November 10, 1999, for a third successive nine-year appointment. He is a Chicot County planter and ginner. Mr. Angel currently serves as president of Epstein Land Company and Epstein Gin Company, Lake Village, Arkansas; and Chicot Warehouse, Inc., Eudora, Arkansas. He is a commissioner of the Chicot County Watershed District and former commissioner of Chicot County Rural Development Authority and the Southeast Arkansas Levee District.

He is vice president of the Standridge Flying Service of Lake Village, director of the Bank of Lake Village, and

present director and former president and chairman of the board of the Southern Cotton Ginners Association. Mr. Angel is a former delegate and director of the board of the National Cotton Council of America, and he is also on the board of the Cotton Warehouse Association of America.

Mr. Angel served with the Army National Guard from 1957-65, and the U.S. Army from 1961-62. A native of Lake Village, Arkansas, Mr. Angel is married to the former Donna Chrismond of Greenwood, Mississippi, and they have five children.

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BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERT H. GRIFFIN

Brigadier General Robert H. Griffin assumed duties as Commander and Division Engineer, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on August 5, 1999. He heads two regional offices, the Ohio River Regional Office located in Cincinnati, Ohio, and the Great Lakes Regional Office in Chicago, Ill. General Griffin's appointment to the Mississippi River Commission (MRC), made by the President of the United States, was confirmed by the U.S. Senate November 10, 1999. He is also the U.S. Chair of the Lake Superior, Niagara and St. Lawrence River Boards of Control as a part of the International Joint Commission, which regulates all aspects of the Great Lakes Watershed Basin.

General Griffin directs all Corps of Engineers water resources development in the Great Lakes and Ohio River basins, an area of over 355,300 square miles including all or parts of 17 states. The program includes planning, construction and operation of navigation structures on the Ohio River and Great Lakes system and flood control projects throughout both basins. The program also includes hydropower, environmental protection and restoration, water conservation, recreation and disaster assistance. This work is carried out through seven districts at Buffalo, Chicago, Detroit, Huntington, Louisville, Nashville and Pittsburgh.

He also directs the Corps' military construction program for the states of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan. The program includes the design and construction of facilities such as barracks, hospitals, airfields and family housing at Army, Air Force, and Department of Defense installations.

General Griffin comes to the Corps of Engineers' Great Lakes and Ohio River Division from the Corps' Northwestern Division office located in Portland, Oregon, where he served as the Commander and Division Engineer.

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, General Griffin earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Masters degree in Civil Engineering, both from Auburn University in Alabama. He holds a second Masters degree in Business Administration from Long Island University in Greenvale, N.Y. A graduate of the U.S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Penn., and the U.S. Army Command General Staff College, he is a registered professional engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

General Griffin's previous command and staff assignments have included Chief of Staff at Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C.; Commander, Mobile District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Battalion Commander, 864th Engineer Battalion, Fort Lewis, Wash., and Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Other assignments include command and staff positions with engineer units, both in the United States and abroad.

His military decorations include the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal and numerous others.

General Griffin and his wife, the former Bobbie Finley, have one son, Houston.

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